

and the Pacific Science & Engineering Group Inc. also provided experts for research and experimentation.

"Gordon Schacher is really the prime mover behind FIRE," Maule said. "He was the original director of the NPS Institute for Joint Warfare Analysis where this experimentation innovation began."

CHIPS

2008 DON IM/IT Excellence Awards

The call for nominations for the 2008 Department of the Navy Information Management/Information Technology (IM/IT) Excellence Awards will be announced by a DON Info Alert (electronic newsletter) and naval message in fall 2007. The purpose of these awards is to recognize superior quality of IM/IT projects, teams and individuals helping to transform the Navy and Marine Corps through information technology.

DON teams and individuals of all ranks, rates and grades are eligible to apply for an award. A combination of team and individual awards will be presented. Team awards will be presented to project teams, process/product teams and working groups. The team must include government civilian or military employees, but may include contractor personnel as well. Representation from the other services on joint projects involving the DON is welcome. Individual awards will be presented to government civilian or military employees.

Individuals and teams that meet one or more of the following criteria will be considered for an award:

- Superior leadership skills, delivering results that ensure the organization is working toward common solutions, and aligned to the DON IM and IT strategic vision (as defined in the DON IM and IT Strategic Plan for FY 2006-2007 available at <http://www.doncio.navy.mil>);
- Innovative use of IM/IT while not duplicating existing projects, systems or solutions;
- Significantly improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the organization in delivering its mission;
- Significant achievement in advancing the DON's vision to manage knowledge to enable effective decision-making, increase the efficiency of task accomplishment and improve mission effectiveness;
- Significant contributions that enable information assurance or critical infrastructure improvements;
- Significant contributions to the recruitment, retention, and training of the IM/IT workforce.

Awards will be presented during the DON IM and IT Conference scheduled for Feb. 4-7, 2008, at the San Diego Convention Center, 111 West Harbor Drive, San Diego, Calif.

To sign up for the Info Alert and receive the 2008 call for nominations, go to the DON CIO Web site at <http://www.doncio.navy.mil>, click on Info Alerts and News on the left side of the screen, or call (703) 602-6274 for more information. Details about the conference will be announced in the coming months in CHIPS and by a DON Info Alert.

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Last Known Yeoman (F) Laid To Rest

By Sophie Platt, Naval Historical Center Public Affairs

Charlotte Louise Berry Winters, the last known Navy Yeoman (F) and woman veteran of World War I, was laid to rest March 30 in Frederick, Md. Winters died at the age of 109 on March 27. Her funeral was attended by an honor guard, pall bearers, and firing party from the Navy Ceremonial Guard, along with family and friends.

Vice Adm. Nancy E. Brown, Joint Staff director for Command, Control, Communications and Computer (C4) Systems, presented the casket flag to the family.

After enlisting in 1917, Winters served at the Washington Navy Yard in Building 57, current home of the Naval Historical Center. One of the last Yeoman (F)s to be discharged in 1919, she was immediately hired by the Navy as a civilian employee to fill her active-duty job.

"Ms. Winters was a trailblazer, one of a relatively small group of women to serve in our Navy during World War I. She did so honorably and nobly, helping through that service to bring freedom to millions of people all across Europe and hope to thousands of young women all across America," said Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Mullen.

"She and her shipmates answered the call when the nation needed them most. They worked hard. They struggled. They persevered, and they set a shining example. And, as in Ms. Winter's case, some stayed on to prepare the Navy to fight and win yet another World War. They were patriots, and we will remain forever in their debt," Mullen added.

Winters was a founding member of the National Yeoman (F) veterans' organization, and served as its eighth commander from 1940-1941.

The Yeoman (F)s, popularly called 'Yeomanettes' to their objection, were established by Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels in 1917 after the U.S. entry into the war.

At the time the Navy and Marines were the only branches of the U.S. armed forces to enlist women to serve in a similar status with men. The expanding Navy and Marines had a dire need for more clerks and stenographers, while also needing to free male Sailors and Marines for fleet duty. Recruited at first just for clerical duties, by the end of the war their jobs included language translators and munitions workers in factories.

Records show that 11,000 Yeoman (F)s, 1,713 female nurses and 269 women Marines (Marinettes) served in World War I. For many years they, along with Army nurses, were the only women eligible to join the American Legion, and the only ones eligible to receive a bonus voted to veterans of World War I.

The Yeoman (F)s were of such invaluable service to the country that there was no question of women returning to Navy service during World War II as the WAVES (Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service).

The success of the WAVES in turn paved the way for the 1948 permanent establishment of women in the Navy. So, not only did the Yeoman (F)s provide exceptional service during World War I, they set a standard of excellence for women in the U.S. military which is carried on today.

The Naval Historical Center has more information on the "Yeomanettes" at <http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/prs-tpic/females/yeoman-f.htm>. For more news from the Naval Historical Center visit <http://www.news.navy.mil/local/navhist/>.

This article has been edited from the original which appeared on Navy NewsStand March 30, 2007. Go to Navy NewsStand at <http://www.navy.mil> for more news from around the fleet.

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